

TROUBLE FOR COLOMBIA.

INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS MAY ARISE.

DEATH, IMPRISONMENT AND LOSS FOLLOW THE DETENTION OF A NORWEGIAN STEAMER.

To avoid crossing that treacherous bar at the mouth of the Magdalena River down in Colombia the officers of the Norwegian steamer Antonio Zambrano endured persecution and privation, and finally cut the cables of the vessel, left her anchors on the bottom of the stream and sailed away without discharging the cargo. The captain and several of the crew of the Zambrano were drowned while exploring the shifting and treacherous shoals at the mouth of the Magdalena. Some of the crew were imprisoned, and were not for the prompt action of Captain Krogh the steamer would be detained to-day in Colombian waters.

The treatment which the Antonio Zambrano received at the hands of the Colombian authorities may result in serious international complications. The Norwegian Government, under whose flag the Antonio Zambrano sailed, will undoubtedly demand reparation, and the American consuls of the cargo have filed a claim for \$50,000 damages against the Colombian Republic.

Captain Krogh, under whose command the Zambrano arrived at this port Sunday, told yesterday the story of the suffering which he and his crew had undergone. The Zambrano left Philadelphia December 2, 1892, bound for Barranquilla, Colombia. She was laden with coal and resin, and her cargo was consigned to Raphael Salcedo. The agents of the Zambrano are W. W. Hurlbut & Co., of No. 18 Broadway. She was chartered by H. N. Hovos & Co., of Philadelphia, and sub-chartered by Mecke & Co. The steamer reached the mouth of the Magdalena River late in January. The town of Barranquilla is situated fifteen miles from the mouth of the river. Formerly a number of steamers went up to the town, but of late years the bar has so shifted that the stream is not navigable for large steamers. The treacherous bar is known to mariners as the "Cemetery of Shipping."

The people of Barranquilla want the Colombian Government to remove the bar. Salcedo, the man to whom the cargo of the Zambrano was consigned, insisted that the steamer should go into the river. Captain Krogh, who was in command, said that it would be impossible for him to cross the bar, and offered to discharge the cargo at Savannah, and to send it by rail to Barranquilla at the ship's expense. Salcedo would not listen to such a proposition, and reported the case to the Colombian authorities. The customs officials refused to permit the captain of the vessel to discharge the cargo, and ordered him to proceed up the river under the penalties of fines and imprisonment.

Captain Krogh, Captain Jansen, an insurance underwriter, and a steamer agent, then started up the river in a small boat to examine the bar. The boat was capsized and the men were caught in the treacherous currents and drowned.

First Officer Stubbs, upon whom devolved the command of the vessel, was arrested and imprisoned, and the authorities said that unless the steamer crossed the bar a fine of \$2,000 would be levied. The officials refused to permit the crew of the steamer to get provisions and water, and men on the Norwegian vessel were compelled to depend upon the charity of passing vessels for supplies. For weeks the steamer lay near the entrance to the river unable to move.

The Colombian officials had taken away the engine rods of the engines of the Zambrano and then stationed a guard to watch the helpless vessel.

The agents of the steamer in this city sent Captain Krogh to Colombia with orders to take command of the steamer and secure her release. Captain Krogh went to Bogota and secured an order by which he got Chief Officer Stubbs out of prison. Stubbs had suffered terribly while in the hands of the Colombian officials, and he was loaded with soldiers, and at the bow was a customs officer who had made himself obnoxious by his misdirected zeal.

The Zambrano then had her engine rods back, her machinery had been repaired, and there was plenty of steam. It was a matter of a minute to cut the cables, which held the anchors, and the Zambrano gave way. The agents of the steamer in this city were much alarmed about the safety of their vessel. They consulted Secretary of State Gresham, and had just prepared a memorial stating their grievances, when they received word by cable from Captain Krogh that the steamer had sailed. The coal and resin remained in the hold, and when the Zambrano arrived here there was little for the local customs officials to do.

W. W. Hurlbut & Co. say that their loss is \$50,000, and they will bring action against the Colombian Government to recover that amount. Captain Krogh says that between the agents of South American towns and the demands of blackmailing Colombian officials, he was subjected to every insult. The Norwegian Government has the matter also under investigation.

RICE'S REPORT ON READING.

A LOSS OF \$1,000,000 IMPOSED UPON THE COMPANY BY McLEOD'S VENTURES IN NEW-ENGLAND TERRITORY.

Philadelphia, May 15.—Isaac L. Rice, who under the regime of Mr. McLeod was the foreign representative of the Reading Railroad Company with offices in London, and who after the appointment of the receivers for the road made an examination of the company's books in the interests of the bondholders, today made public the result of his examination. The Boston and Maine and New-York and New-England stock transactions.

In summing up the report Mr. Rice says that the loss to the company on the Boston and Maine stock transaction amounts to over \$2,000,000, and on the New-York and New-England \$578,000, a total loss of over \$2,500,000, considering the collateral used as obligations of the company.

Mr. Rice published in connection with the report a cablegram and a letter to himself from Mr. McLeod, in which the latter announced that he and his friends had secured control of the New-England roads without any obligation having been made on the part of the Reading.

COMMITTED SUICIDE FROM A TROT STEAMER. Troy, N. Y., May 15.—When the steamer Saratoga reached this city this morning it was reported by Frederick Waldron and William Quay, of Brooklyn, that Henry L. Weber, a travelling companion, had jumped overboard as the boat was passing Newburg last night and was drowned. His home was at No. 353 Evergreen-avenue, Brooklyn.

LIZZIE BORDEN'S ILLNESS NOT SERIOUS. Taunton, Mass., May 15.—Dr. Page, the local physician, says that Miss Borden's illness is of a bronchial nature and came on after her return from the arrangement at New Bedford. The following day she experienced a sudden chill and has since been under his care. Owing to noise in the women's quarters she has been taken into the keeper's house, where it is quiet. She will undoubtedly be in fair condition at the time of her trial.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A JAILER. Bridgeport, Conn., May 15.—As William M. Wells, the Fairfield County jailer, was getting into his car this morning in the jail yard, his horse started suddenly and Mr. Wells was thrown head first upon the walk. He remained unconscious until this afternoon, when he died. He was sixty-nine years old, had been jailer since 1871, and left a widow and one son.

TO BE BURIED BESIDE HIS WIFE. Minneapolis, May 15 (Special).—The body of Joseph Franks, inventor of the lifeboat, who died at Oaage Lake, N. Y., May 10, will tomorrow be placed in the vault at Lakewood Cemetery in this city beside his wife. The wife was buried there on the spot of her own selection a sudden chill and has since been under his care. Owing to noise in the women's quarters she has been taken into the keeper's house, where it is quiet. She will undoubtedly be in fair condition at the time of her trial.

MORE TROUBLE IN THE WEST.

MINNEAPOLIS COMPANIES EMBARRASSED.

THE NORTHWESTERN GUARANTY LOAN COMPANY WILL PROBABLY SUSPEND-A STATE BANK CLOSED.

By TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Minneapolis, Minn., May 15.—It was reported in this city and in St. Paul today that the Northwestern Guaranty Loan Company, which has become involved in financial difficulties of late, had suspended. The rumor, although gaining general credence, was found to be false. It is expected, however, that the company will be compelled to suspend in a few days. Officers and directors of the concern admit as much. L. P. Menage, president of the company, will not talk for publication beyond the expression of a conviction that the company will eventually pay every dollar. Just how much time will be required for this is unknown.

The trouble with the company is that from various causes many of its patrons have refused to take up or renew their notes. The company's difficulties, it is the general belief, are only temporary. Some of the wealthiest men of the city, Thomas Lowry and others are back of it, and it is believed that the company will be able to satisfy all demands. It will not be possible to ascertain the exact condition of affairs unless the company suspends, as it expects to do. The company is about ten years old, and its stock is \$1,250,000. It owns the \$2,000,000 building in which its offices are situated, and holds as collateral and in the hands of its patrons a large amount of property here in Chicago and elsewhere. Its business is lending commercial paper on sufficient collateral and the guarantee of the power. It has some \$300,000 of this paper.

One of the results of the rumors regarding the Guaranty Loan was a run on the Farmers and Merchants' Savings Bank today. The depositors are largely working people. The bank is not alarmed, and is able to meet all demands. It has nearly \$500,000 of available cash and securities, and could stand a run of eight days if necessary. The run is, however, entirely without cause. The Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, a concern with small capital, suspended, but will undoubtedly resume in a day or two.

Thomas Lowry, vice-president of the Northwestern Guaranty Loan Company, when seen by a Tribune reporter at the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday, said that he had not been to a meeting of the board of directors for eighteen months, but that he believed the company had collateral back of all its liabilities, and that it would be able to meet all its obligations if a little time were given. He said that he had received no information whatever yesterday concerning the condition of the company. Mr. Lowry is also president of the Farmers and Merchants' Savings Bank of Minneapolis. He said yesterday that the bank was perfectly sound, and could easily stand the run upon it, which he attributed to the general distrust and panic in financial circles.

At the American Exchange National Bank, which is also in financial straits, it was said that most of the company's paper was put out in small lots of \$100 and \$500, and was held by the Eastern States, little if any of it having been placed in New-York. The bank officials declared that they were not troubled by the Minneapolis company's embarrassment.

NEHR & CARPENTER FAIL.

CARRIED DOWN BY THE NORTHWESTERN GUARANTY LOAN COMPANY.

Troy, May 15 (Special).—Financial circles in this city were somewhat disturbed this noon when James H. Carpenter, sole surviving partner of the firm of Nehr & Carpenter, made a general assignment to Robert D. Nehr, of New-York City. The firm were the thirteen agents of the Northwestern Guaranty Loan Company, and also conducted a private banking and general insurance business. Many anxious depositors gathered about the banking-house, but were not permitted to enter. No schedule of assets was filed. The firm's business was thought to be in a bad way, and that the firm was preparing one from the books. The firm has nearly \$10,000 on deposit in the National Bank here. The firm's depositors consist of a large number of comparatively poor people on whom the loss, should matters not be adjusted, will fall disastrously. Mr. Carpenter was seen this evening by a Tribune reporter. He said that the result of the firm's indebtedness will be paid. I have done nothing wrong in this matter, and just as soon as a statement of the liabilities and assets can be prepared the public will be taken into my confidence. Our firm was totally unable to borrow money from the banks in this city. We found the banks borrowing from each other, and when one bank gave any idea of the extent of our liabilities, nor the amount of Northwestern stock that is held in this vicinity. All of the company's business for April has been settled up, and all the collections for May were on deposit in the city banks, and a distribution pro rata will be made among the depositors. The result of the firm's business is a compromise. The general hard times is what caused the Northwestern Guaranty Loan Company to go into liquidation, and our firm was so heavily interested that it was pulled into the general trouble.

No estimate of the assets or liabilities can be made at this time. It was said that a report of a recent issue of \$10,000,000 of debenture bonds by the Northwestern Company, \$2,000,000 of which had been disposed of by the agents in this city, the agents guaranteeing to some of the purchasers the payment of principal and interest, the amount of which is not known.

A COLLAPSE IN DENVER.

WILLIAM B. MYGATT, A BANKER, FORCED TO MAKE AN ASSIGNMENT.

Denver, Col., May 15.—William B. Mygatt, a well-known banker and business man, made an assignment today to James F. Hopkins. He places his assets at \$201,800 and his liabilities at \$207,849.35. Mr. Mygatt was a member of the old banking firm of Mygatt & Co., which, after the National Bank of Commerce was organized, was the principal stockholder of the National Bank of Commerce. The list of creditors given chiefly to different parties in the East, a few of the holders being in Denver. Among the larger claims are those of the National Bank of Commerce, Denver, \$40,875; William Palmer, \$20,000; and the People's Bank of Providence, R. I., \$25,000. Other creditors are A. D. Thompson, \$10,000; J. W. Townsend, New-York, \$15,000; one secured by Champa-street property; \$107,500 in notes held by parties whose names are unknown, secured by Denver real estate; the New-York Guaranty and Indemnity Company, \$40,000; Chase National Bank of New-York, \$37,000.

Mr. Mygatt's assets consist of real estate amounting to about \$200,000, located around Denver, stock valued at about \$120,000 and loans amounting to about \$100,000. No preference is given to anybody in the assignment and no reason is made. "I will pay dollar for dollar," said Mr. Mygatt this afternoon. "The Eastern banks are getting afraid of all security, and all are especially discriminating against Western paper. The banks with which I have dealt for a long time refused to take my securities which they had previously often desired."

INDIANA BANKS TO RESUME BUSINESS. Indianapolis, May 15.—State Bank Examiner Orlando Packard last night said that his examination, together with United States Bank Examiner Young, into the condition of the Capital National Bank of this city showed that the bank was in better shape than the report of President Wilson had made out, and that if the Colonial of Chicago resumed there would be no doubt of the resumption of the Capital here. Concerning the bank situation in Indiana, he said it was decidedly better. On Saturday there were runs reported from many places, all of which had been successfully met, and although the crisis might not be entirely over, there was less danger to be feared this week. There have been in all ten failures of banks in the State as a result of the failure of the Columbia National of Chicago. It is announced by John W. Paris and J. Shannon Nave, of this city, that the four banks in which they are interested will reopen within a few days. The Orleans Bank has been disposed of to Orleans capitalists, and will resume business. The syndicate announces that it has completed arrangements for the resumption of the other banks in the State. It is also stated that some of the banks operated by Dwight & Starbuck, of the Columbia National, will be reopened during the week.

TO REOPEN THE COLUMBIA NATIONAL. Chicago, May 15.—At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Columbia National Bank today, it was unanimously resolved to resume business at an early date, and committees were appointed to perfect the plan, and to carry into effect the course determined upon.

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The Alliance on the Pacific Coast, although undergoing repairs at the time, sailed within twenty-four hours after receiving news from the Department that a revolution existed in Nicaragua and that her presence was required at Comoto. The Atlanta took three days and seven hours in which to make ready for the cruise. Secretary Herbert's dissatisfaction with Captain Higginson was vigorously exhibited today. Orders were issued to Captain John R. Bartlett, now on duty on the Minnesota at New-York, directing him to proceed to Greytown on steamer on May 23 and take command of the Atlanta. At the same time orders were issued to the Secretary of the Department to direct the Atlanta to sail on the 23rd inst. to Greytown, and to direct the Atlanta to sail on the 23rd inst. to Greytown, and to direct the Atlanta to sail on the 23rd inst. to Greytown.

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The Department has information that the substance of this telegram was promptly communicated to Captain Higginson. Notwithstanding this fact and the Department's direct orders, and the determination of the Atlanta's commander sent the following telegram directed, instead of through Admiral Gherardi, to Engineer-in-Chief Melville: "Please do not let Atlanta sail without putting tubes on board. We have two boilers out of action from faulty tubes."

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THE TERRE HAUTE POSTOFFICE.

CIVIL SERVICE LAW DEFIED BY INDIANA SPOILSMEN.

DISGRACEFUL MEANS USED TO SEIZE THE OFFICE SAID TO HAVE BEEN UPHOLD BY THE ADMINISTRATION—DECEIVED REFORMERS.

Washington, May 15.—The Supreme Court of the United States today affirmed the constitutionality of the Civil Service Law, and the Indiana Civil Service Reform Association, have made an investigation of the disgraceful proceedings in the Terre Haute postoffice where Denham, the Democratic appointee, attempted to secure possession before the postoffice could be made subject to the Civil Service eligible list. Swift and Foster-general which, for the present, they decided to give out. The last paragraph, however, is as follows:

We feel that the Civil Service law is on trial in this office. The law should be in the hands of those who respect it and who will give it an honorable and fair enforcement. In this case it is in the hands of an officer who not only does not respect it, but who is its open and avowed enemy. The opportunities for evasion and nullification in the hands of such a man are too well known to need statement here.

Mr. Swift today made the following statement: "There is no question but that a conspiracy was formed weeks ago by a gang of political buccanniers, who claim to be Democrats, to get possession of the Terre Haute postoffice and fill it up with their own men and cheat the Civil Service law. John Lamb and Crawford Fairbanks were concerned in this conspiracy. Money was offered to Postmaster Greiner if he would resign, and he was at the same time given to understand that if he refused sensational charges would be made against him. He was as fast as they could, the Civil Service examination was likely to overtake them before they could get the change made. Charges which had no foundation and which there was no attempt to prove, were made against the local examining board and a week was gained by securing a postponement of the examination. In this, Senator Voorhees was engaged. That fixed it for last Saturday, and the examination to the new force could not arrive until last Friday. He undertook to take possession at once by force, and afterward disobeyed the order of the Department at Washington directing him to wait until Saturday night. The keys and the office were not turned over to him until Saturday night and until after the examination